THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B. K. GADHVI): (a) and (b) Itemised details of subsidies by Central Government provided in 1986-87 (RE) and 1987-88 (BE) are given in Statement 4 of the document "Expenditure Budget, 1987-88, Vol.1" which was presented to Parliament on 28th February, 1987 alongwith the Budget for 1987-88.

Central projects in U.P.

2077. DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI: Will the Minister of PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of Central projects completed in Uttar Pradesh till June, 1987;

(b) what is the number of Central projects in Uttar Pradesh which are under execution at present or have not yet been started;

(c) by when such projects are likely to be completed; and

(d) the total amount spent so far on the completed projects and what is the excluding the railways/gas pipeline projects under execution or projects which have not yet been started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) and (b) According to the available information in respect of Central projects covered by the Quarterly Monitoring System of the Ministry, the number of projects completed and under implementation till June, 1987 from the commencement of 7th Plan (1-4-1985) are 4 and 22 respectively.

(c) Projects under implementation are now scheduled for completion by 1990 excepting two coal projects which are likely to be completed by December, 1994.

(d) The total amounts spent on the completed projects and the present 'day estimated cost of projects under implementation are of the order of Rs. 380 crores and Rs. 6650 crores respectively, excluding the railways/gas pipline projects traversing through different States where the project cost is not amendable to allocation to different States.

Introduction of computers in Banks

2078. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is confusion on the agreement between the Indian Banks' Association and the Unions of the bank employees in introducing computers in the Banks;

(b) if so, what are the real problems; and

(c) by when the said agreement will be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Indian Banks' Association has advised that the agreement is in the process of implementation by the banks.

Gas Leakage in MES water pumping station Meerut

2079. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a woman had died and a number of persons were hospitalised following a chlorine gas leakage from the Military Engineering Service (MES) water pumping station in the cantonment area in Meerut recently; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof, stating the outcome of the inquiry conducted by Government into t
of gas and the action taken i

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RAJ PATIL): (a) an

woman died and 67 persons were affected by leakage of chlorine gas on 20-6-87. Out of these, 56 persons were sent back after first aid and six persons were discharged from the hospital the same evening. The remaining persons were discharged from the hospital on 21-6-87. A Court of Inquiry has been instituted to go into this incident. In the meantime, to avoid such incidents in future, a Standard Operative Procedure has been formulated and conveyed to all formations for their guidance.

New approach to Himalayas' Defence Policy

2080. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have considered the question of a new integrated approach to the Himalayas' defence policy to defend country's security, in view of the changing military situation in the Himalayas since the eighties, increasing defence collaboration between Pakistan and China, extending it to the nuclear field and increased threats to country's security on the Indo-China border; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) and (b) The country's defence plans take into account the security environment and the emerging threat.

In the interest of security it would not be desirable to disclose details.

Loss of revenue due to delay in disposal of seized goods by customs authorities

2081. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what on an average is the estimated annual loss of revenue suffered by the Government because of delay in the disposal of goods seized/confiscated by the customs authorities; and

(b) whether Government have reviewed the existing procedure/mode of disposal of the seized/confiscated goods by the customs authorities particularly in the case of goods which are prone to rapid decay to avoid or to minimise the losses, if so, what steps are contemplated by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B. K. GADHVI): (a) The average annual loss suffered due to theft, damage and deterioration etc. for the last three financial years was about Rs. 28 lakhs as against the total stock of seized goods of Rs. 260 crores as on 1-4-1986.

(b) The confiscated goods become ripe for disposal after completion of appeal, revision proceedings etc. . The procedure and mode of disposal of seized/confiscated goods have been reviewed from time to time and instructions have been issued for expediting the disposal of seized/confiscated goods Modes/channels of disposal were increased in 1985. In 1984, goods were divided into four categories to expedite disposal of goods susceptible to deterioration or rapid obsolescence. In 1985, section 110 of the Customs Act, 1962, relating to seizures was amended to enable immediate disposal of seized goods specified by the Government by notification by filing an application before a magistrate.

Investment schemes for NRI

2082. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the estimated annual remittance by the common rural and semi-urban NRIs like Masons, Carpenters Electricians, Nurses etc.

(b) what are the channels, if any, provided by the Government for viable investments of their foreign exchange earnings on their return to the country to settle down in their villages/home towns; and

(c) if the answer to part (b) above is in the negative, whether Government have